Monday, June 24, 2013

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65,000 CALGARY FLOOD VICTIMS GET THE GREEN LIGHT TO RETURN HOME AND SEE WHAT'S BECOME OF THEIR PROPERTY

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Wynne's Pride walk set to make history

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Mayor Rob Ford is no fan of a proposal to lighten up traffic for the TTC by closing King Street to cars PAGE 3

Snowden seeking asylum in Ecuador

NSA leaker flees Hong Kong for Moscow to evade U.S. authorities, official says PAGE 10

NOTHING SWEETER THAN A SWEEP

From left: Blue Jays Munenori Kawasaki, Colby Rasmus, Rajai Davis and Maicer Izturis celebrate their sweep of the Baltimore Orioles at the Rogers Centre on Sunday. The Jays' 13-5 victory tied their franchise record of 11 straight wins. The team will aim to make it 12 tonight against Tampa Bay. More coverage, pages 6 & 21. ABELIMAGES/GETTY IMAGES

Private booze sales a win-win scenario: Study

LCBO. More competition predicted to raise revenue for province and lower prices for consumers

Lower booze prices and convenience are two key findings of a detailed economic study of expanded alcohol sales in Ontario.

A system blending the LCBO with private sales similar to the system used in British Columbia would increase the amount of money the province gets from alcohol sales and result in lower prices, University of Waterloo economist Anindya Sen said.

"Government and consumers in Ontario should strongly benefit from some increased competition in the retail sale of alcohol," he said.

The detailed study for the Ontario Convenience Store Association concludes competition would hike booze sales by as much as nine per cent.

"Once you have competition in any market, you are forcing the incumbent to be more efficient. That forces them to look for savings, it pushes the marginal cost down and they are going to make higher margins," Sen said, adding that "for sure" prices would also come down.

The LCBO's markup on booze is more than 50 per cent of the final retail price, he said.

The report bolsters Tory Leader Tim Hudak's promise to end the LCBO's monopoly on the sale of wine and spirits if he forms government.

One of the systems Hudak would consider is the one Sen has put forward, in which the LCBO would remain the wholesaler, but corner stores and supermarkets would be able to sell beer, wine and liquor along with private specialty stores.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Ford: 'Phase out' King St. streetcars

Transportation. TTC board chair to move a motion asking staff to look into feasibility of banning cars from King St. in rush hour during 2015 Pan Am Games

Mayor Rob Ford and his brother Coun. Doug Ford condemned the idea of closing downtown King Street to car traffic on their radio show on Sunday.

"You cannot shut down King Street for streetcars. We need to phase out streetcars," said Ford, who would replace them with buses.

Coun. Karen Stintz, who chairs the TTC board, is to move a motion there on Monday asking staff to look into the feasibility of banning cars from King Street in rush hour during the 2015 Pan Am Games.

The mayor urged listeners on Newstalk 1010 to call their local councillors and complain about spending money on a study of something he believes doesn't stand a chance of being enacted.

Doug Ford said if he were chair of the TTC, he would order more subway construction. If the city wants to keep streetcars for tourists, it should be confined to one street, perhaps Spadina Avenue, he suggested.

He told listeners the city is working on synchronizing traffic lights to improve traffic flow by 30 per cent.

The brothers said if cars are banned from King Street during rush hour, drivers will end up cutting through neighbourhoods to get through town.

King is the TTC's busiest streetcar route, with almost 57,000 passengers a day.

The mayor also said he is furious over news last week that the province will cut $150 million in funding to Toronto over three years. He said it will mean program cuts because he's not prepared to raise taxes. He said he will make his views known to provincial officials in a meeting on Monday.

He was not specific about what programs he would cut, but he said he strongly supports public housing.

Provincial officials have said Toronto is receiving concessions that will offset the loss.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Newstalk 1010

"Our Liberal friends at Queen's Park are not being friends. I'm very, very upset."

Mayor Rob Ford on news last week that the province will cut $150 million in funding to Toronto over three years

Flame off!

Janos Lancos cools down on Sunday at the splash pad at Greenwood Park. The city's second heat alert of the year — the first was May 30 — was issued for Toronto Sunday morning. Environment Canada is predicting the temperature will stay above the 30 C mark until Thursday. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Affordable housing. City has less cash but needs to do more, says councillor

Toronto's $751-million public housing repair bill, coupled with the pending loss of $161 million in annual social housing funding from Ottawa, is pushing the city to the brink, says the chair of the city's affordable-housing committee.

"We're at the cliff," said Coun. Ana Bailao.

"We have a huge need to build more (affordable housing)," she said.

"But we are receiving less money to operate what we already have at a time when that housing is increasingly under pressure due to maintenance and capital repair issues." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Validation

The warning comes after a report last week by Ontario's Non-Profit Housing Association that says the province's crisis is deepening, with more than 154,000 households on social housing wait lists and one in five paying more than half their income on rent.

$100,000 paycheque

Oshawa man nails 'Best Job in World'

When Greg Snell was flown to Australia to interview for the job of wildlife caretaker, he didn't know he'd have to answer questions with a nine-foot python around his neck.

But what would petrify most people emboldened the 27-year-old Oshawa man, whose role will be to travel around Australia caring for wildlife ranging from kangaroos to koalas.

The job is part of a contest dubbed The Best Jobs in the World — a marketing effort by the South Australia Tourism Commission.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Wynne's yearly Pride walk to become a Toronto first

Premier Kathleen Wynne is married to Jane Rounthwaite and has three children and two grandchildren. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sending a message.

No sitting premier has ever marched in the city's gay-pride parade

Canada's first openly gay premier, Kathleen Wynne, will march into history this month when she becomes the first sitting premier to take part in Toronto's annual gay-pride parade.

Wynne, who is married to Jane Rounthwaite and has three children and two grandchildren, said attending gay-pride activities is an annual event for her.

"Every year I take part in the pride events. Jane and I go to the Pride and Remembrance Run on Saturday morning. I go to the church service ... on Sunday morning, and of course I walk in the parade," she told The Canadian Press in an interview.

Brenda Cossman, director of the Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies at the University of Toronto, said Wynne's participation sends the best possible message.

"Those of us in prominent positions, whether it be politics, business, entertainment, academia, need to lead by example," Cossman said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The importance of Pride

"I've had people ... say to me that Pride is like the biggest celebration of the year for them because they're ... excluded from family holidays. So Pride is like their extended family acknowledging them."

Premier Kathleen Wynne

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[1] Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (YTZ) Economic Impact Study, InterVISTAS Consulting Inc., October 25, 2012

Markham

Arena promoter's integrity backed by false info: NHL

Markham council received inaccurate information in a secret meeting that bolstered the credibility of the controversial promoter of its $325-million proposed arena and chances of an NHL franchise, according to the league.

Minutes of a private council meeting, obtained by Torstar News Service, show councillors saw documents of a "confidential nature" and other reports, including one from Mayor Frank Scarpitti, two months ago that upheld the business integrity of promoter Graeme Roustan.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Lake Shore West line

GO station to get modern makeover

The place where Toronto meets Mississauga along the lakeshore is about to become the transit hub where old meets new.

The Long Branch GO station, one of the original stops on the Lake Shore West line, is on track for a makeover.

The modernization plan, still in the preliminary design stages, comes as the main drag in the south Etobicoke neighbourhood prepares to add a little chic to its long-standing shabby image.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

What would fans lose for a record win?

With the Blue Jays tying its record 11-game win streak, we asked 11 fans around the Rogers Centre: What would you give up for an unprecedented 12th-straight victory?

"I'd scrap my truck. I'd drive her right into a ditch, into a pond or a river. I love this truck."

Steve Van Straaten, 25, plumber

"I wouldn't give up anything because it's going to happen no matter what."

Tyler McManus, 24, food industry

"My electronics."

Chris Ciarla, 11

"I'll give up driving my car for two weeks ... and I'll bike."

Vanessa Copeland, 26, web marketing

Jose Bautista and Emilio Bonafacio celebrate a Blue Jays win against the Baltimore Orioles on Sunday in Toronto. The Jays won 13-5, tying the team record for wins in a row with 11. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"Chips. All of them."

Max Novielli, 11

"I'd give up my air conditioning for the night."

Jonathan Paget, 35, paramedic

"YOLOing."

Erixon Bernado, 20, student

"I will give up my Playstation 3 and I'd give up my iPad, for two weeks. And everyone here is my witness!"

Brittany Huggins, 30, web solutions

"All my hockey cards."

Anthony Iavarone, 12

"My left shoes. All of them."

David Candelaria, 20, student

"I would give up showering, and cutting my toenails and fingernails for the rest of the season."

Patrick Judge, 25, environmental technologist

JESSICA SMITH/METRO

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Building a Better Transit System

Update

Improvements to Kingston Road scheduled from June to December 2013

As part of the TTC's ongoing commitment to build a better transit system for Torontonians, starting in June, the Kingston Road streetcar tracks are being replaced and upgraded. These upgrades require road and track construction that can be disruptive and inconvenient. During this time, local shops, restaurants and businesses will remain open. The TTC and the City of Toronto encourage you to continue to support them during construction.

What will this mean to Kingston Road TTC riders?

- Buses will replace streetcars all day, every day.
- Bus service on north-south routes will be increased to handle increased ridership.
- There will be sidewalk access to businesses during construction.

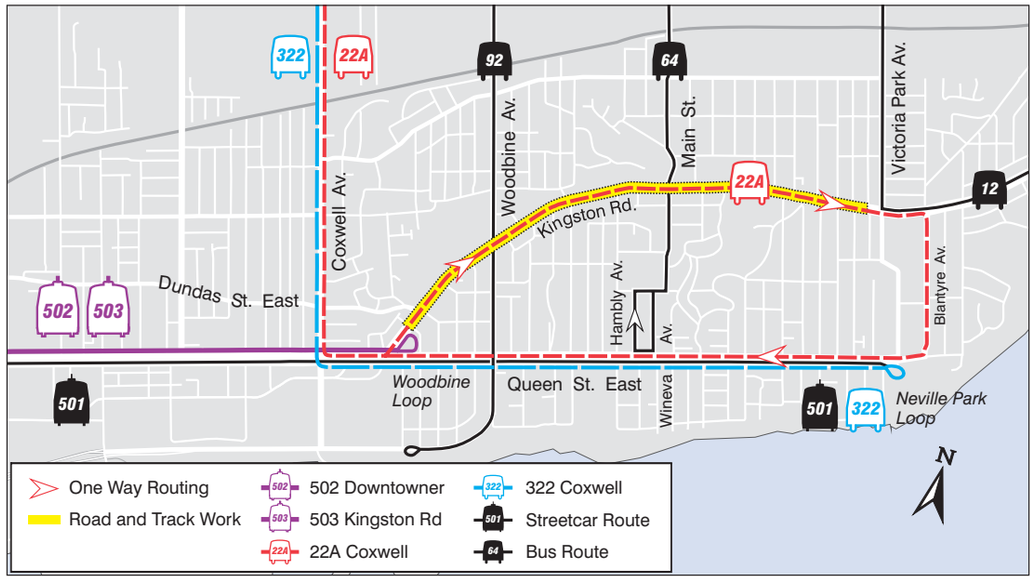
For more information, go to www.ttc.ca

What will happen, and when?

June 24 – December 2013

- Replacement of track begins.
- Centre lanes and westbound lane closed, Victoria Park Ave. to Queen St. E.
- 22A Coxwell bus service runs eastbound only on Kingston Rd. (every 6 to 12 minutes from Monday to Saturday, and every 8 to 12 minutes on Sundays).
- 22A Coxwell bus service runs westbound on Queen St. E. via Blantyre Ave. to Coxwell Ave.
- Take 22A bus service to the Coxwell Station or transfer between buses and streetcars (501, 502, 503) at Queen St. E. and Kingston Rd. or at Queen St. E. and Coxwell Ave. to continue your trip.

June 24 – December 2013



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Mandela. South Africa's president asks world to pray for national hero

Nelson Mandela's health has deteriorated and he is in critical condition, the South African government said Sunday.

The office of President Jacob Zuma said in a statement that he had visited the 94-year-old anti-apartheid leader at a hospital Sunday evening and was informed that Mandela's condition had become critical in the past 24 hours.

"The doctors are doing everything possible to get his condition to improve and are ensuring that (Mandela) is well-looked after and is comfortable. He is in good hands," Zuma said in the statement.

Zuma also met Graca Machel, Mandela's wife, at the hospital in Pretoria and discussed the former leader's condition, according to the statement. Zuma was accompanied on the visit by Cyril Ramaphosa, the deputy president of the country's ruling party, the African National Congress.

Mandela, who became South Africa's first black president after the end of apartheid in 1994, was hospitalized on June 8 for what the government said was a recurring lung infection.

Nelson Mandela
AFP/GETTY IMAGES/FILE

Zuma appealed to South Africans and the rest of the world to pray for Mandela, his family and the medical team that is attending to him.

Mandela was jailed for 27 years under white racist rule and was released in 1990. He then played a leading role in steering the divided country from the apartheid era to democracy, becoming South Africa's first black president in all-race elections in 1994.

As a result of his sacrifice and peacemaking efforts, he is seen by many around the world as a symbol of reconciliation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Elliot Lake

Town marks 1-year anniversary of mall collapse

Residents of Elliot Lake, Ont., marked the one-year anniversary of the collapse of the town's shopping mall by releasing balloons carrying messages of remembrance into the sky, said one of the people who attended the event.

Lifelong resident Joshua Bouchard said people filled a local civic centre on Sunday. "Emotions were a little high, but calm," said Bouchard.

Just after 2 p.m. — the exact time the mall collapsed — hundreds of balloons were let loose, Bouchard said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Calgarians began the flood cleanup in earnest Sunday as 65,000 residents were allowed access back into their homes to survey the damage. CANDICE WARD/FOR METRO

Calgary flood victims begin returning home

Surveying the damage. City still working to restore power to 24,000 customers

JEREMY NOLAIS
Metro in Calgary

City of Calgary officials gave permission to 65,000 residents to return home Sunday and survey damage from flooding unlike any the city has seen in decades.

But some areas remained inaccessible, cut off by water that also damaged major landmarks, including the Pengrowth Saddledome and the Calgary Stampede grounds.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi encouraged employers in the core to only operate with "essential staff," until at least midweek.

It's estimated as many as 100,000 residents were forced to leave their homes initially Thursday and Friday as water gushed into 25 communities.

Erosion had also wreaked havoc on storied communities like Inglewood and Bowness, where rushing water had carried whole pieces of road away. Canadian Forces members worked throughout the day Saturday to protect the area, including nearby homes.

Those same members were also tasked with attempting to save an electricity substation in the city's southeast that Gianna Manes, CEO of utility provider Enmax, said had "become part of the Bow River."

Sarah Harvey and Jan Gilroy were among the first people to return to Calgary's Riverbend area after that community reopened Saturday afternoon.

"I was checking every five minutes," Gilroy said. "I was just like, 'Please let us go back to my house.'"

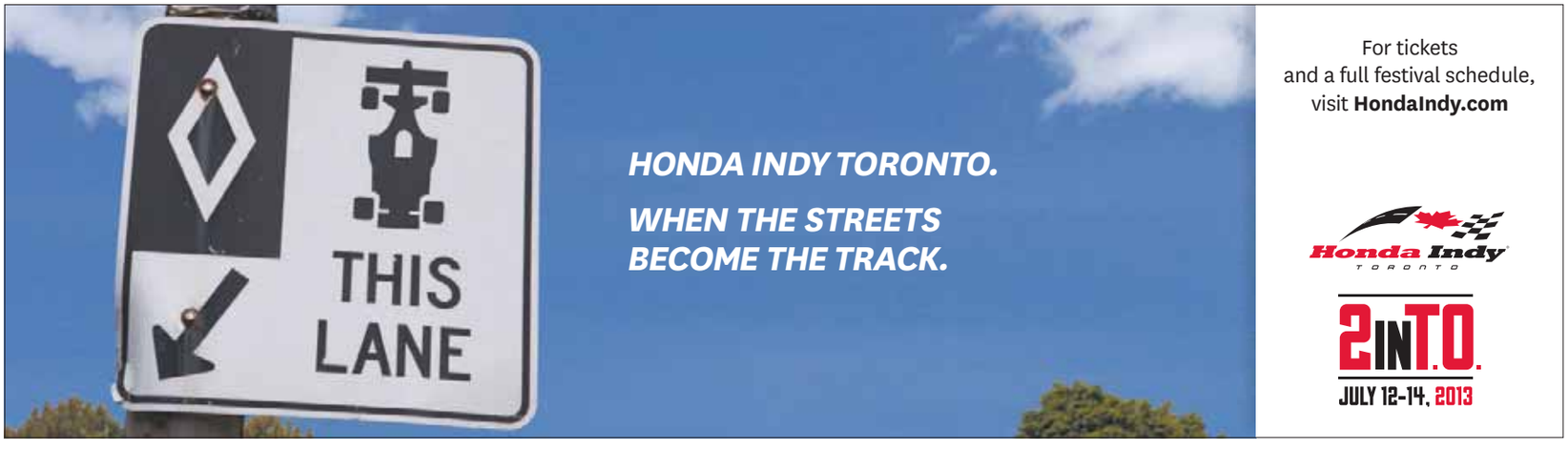
Estimates on damage had not even begun to be tabulated, officials said.

WITH FILES FROM ROBSON FLETCHER

Quoted

"There are pockets of downtown where normalcy will not return for weeks."

Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi



Spain

Mother arrested after baby rescued from drain

A 26-year-old woman has been arrested in the Spanish city of Alicante on suspicion of attempting to murder her newborn baby who had to be rescued from inside a building's drains, the Interior Ministry said Sunday.

The ministry said the two-day-old boy, who still had his umbilical cord attached and was found wrapped in plastic bags, may have been trapped for 40 hours at a point where the building's drains converged into a manhole in a courtyard.

A neighbour had alerted firefighters at 2 a.m. Sunday to what was originally thought to be a meowing cat trapped inside the drains.

The baby, who weighed 4.6 pounds, is said to be in a serious but non-life-threatening condition in hospital, having suffered a fracture to a bone in one arm. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Candidate shot, rival supporter killed in Albania's elections

Gunfire. Largely peaceful campaign erupts in violence at polling station in Lac

Albania's national elections Sunday were marred by violence after an exchange of gunfire wounded a candidate and killed a supporter of a rival party, tainting what had been a largely peaceful campaign and threatening to undermine the country's bid to join the European Union.

Though the leader of the main Socialist Party has claimed victory, it's unclear when the results will be announced because the body that oversees elections in the Balkan country hasn't enough members to certify them constitutionally following a political dispute.

An Albanian voter casts her ballot in the capital, Tirana, Sunday.
HEKTOR PUSTINA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Election day has been overshadowed by the violence. A police spokesman said Gjon Gjoni, 49, died after being shot in an exchange of fire that also wounded Mhill Fufi, 49, a candidate for Prime Minister Sali Berisha's governing Democratic Party. Another man, Fufi's relative Kastriot Fufi, 39, was also wounded.

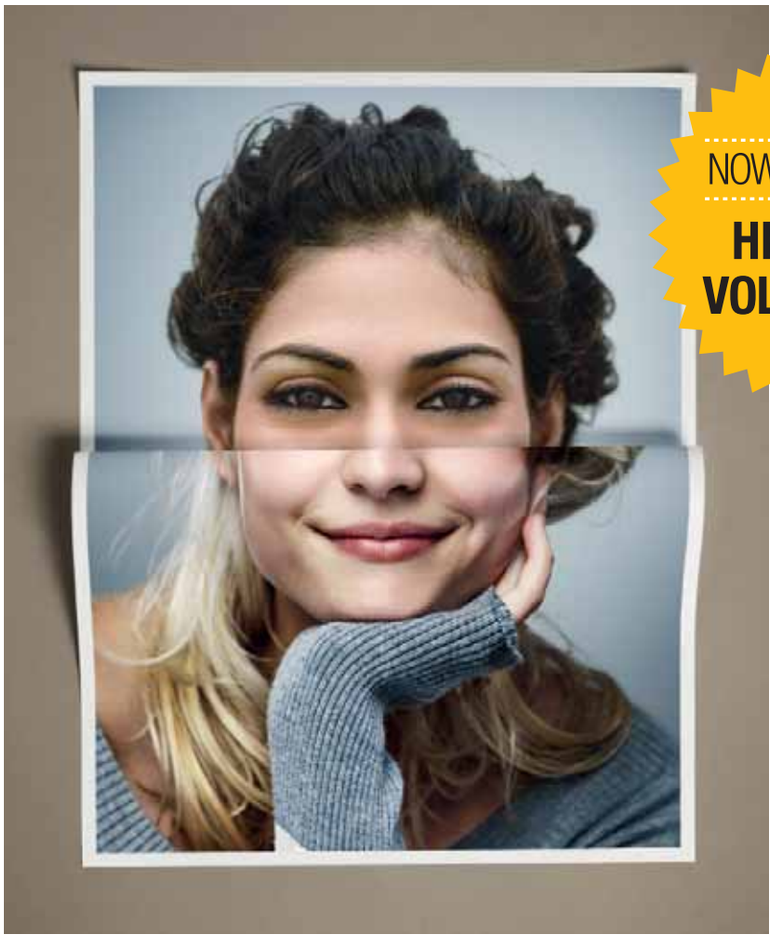
A spokeswoman for the ruling Democratic Party, Laura Vorpsi, said Fufi was trying to move away some opposition supporters who were trying to bribe voters, and alleged that they "responded with shooting rounds."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rocky road to democracy

- Once one of the world's most hardline communist countries, Albania has had a rocky road to democracy over the past couple of decades.
- Corruption has plagued the impoverished country, and its elections have been marred by violence and vote-rigging.

Supermoon rising

A supermoon is seen behind the Statue of Liberty on Sunday in New York. The larger-than-normal moon happens only once this year, as the moon on its elliptical orbit is at its closest point to Earth and is 13.5 per cent larger than usual.
JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Whistleblower seeking asylum in Ecuador, says foreign minister

Passport revoked.
U.S. official said Sunday Edward Snowden's passport was annulled before he left Hong Kong for Russia

Admitted leaker Edward Snowden took flight Sunday to evade U.S. authorities, and is seeking asylum in Ecuador.

The former National Security Agency contractor and CIA technician fled Hong Kong and arrived at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport, where he planned to spend the night. Ecuador's Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino said his government received an asylum request from Snowden, and the anti-secrecy group WikiLeaks said it would help him.

Russian media said Snowden intended to fly to Cuba on Monday and then on to Caracas, Venezuela.

Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla., said she feared Snowden would trade more U.S. secrets for asylum. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the chairwoman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, said she had been told Snowden had more than 200 sensitive documents.

Snowden's itinerary takes him on a tour of what many see as anti-American capitals. Ecuador in particular has rejected the United States' previous efforts at co-operation, and has been helping WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange avoid prosecution by allowing him to stay at its embassy in London.

The United States formally sought Snowden's extradition from Hong Kong but was rebuffed; Hong Kong officials said the U.S. request did not fully comply with their laws.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Journalists show passengers arriving from Hong Kong a tablet with a photo of Edward Snowden at Sheremetyevo airport, just outside Moscow, Russia, Sunday. Hong Kong allowed the former National Security Agency contractor to leave for a "third country" because a U.S. extradition request did not fully comply with Hong Kong law, the territory's government said Sunday. ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"It means that every investigative journalist in the United States ... who receives classified information is a criminal." **Glenn Greenwald, Guardian reporter.** In an interview with NBC TV news show host David Gregory.

(Snowden) "is bound for the Republic of Ecuador via a safe route for the purposes of asylum."

WikiLeaks. The anti-secrecy group's founder, Julian Assange, was granted asylum by Ecuador last year and has been staying at its embassy in the U.K.

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A new spin. Conservative government boosts information services

The federal government employs nearly 4,000 communications staff in the public service, an increase of 15.3 per cent since the Conservatives came to power in 2006.

The sharpest increases came in the two highest-paid job classifications, where numbers jumped 33 per cent and 50 per cent, respectively, data compiled by the Parliamentary Budget Office shows.

"We're laying off people that are producing scientific information and increasing the number of people that are being used to spin it," said Calvin Sandborn, the legal director of the Environmental Law Centre at the University of Victoria. His group helped document repeated cases of scientists being muzzled by government communications rules and staff, a report that convinced the federal information commissioner to take a deeper look.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Budget day shoes

David George-Cosh @itsdgc 19 Mar
Canada finance minister Jim Flaherty buying his #budgetdayshoes from Roots Factory Outlet on Wednesday. #cdnpoli
Followed by Eva Salinas and 5 others
Expand

Media monitoring on specific events or subjects by government departments has expanded to include analyses of social media, such as Twitter, and comment boards.

- The Finance Department went so far as to do a Twitter analysis on the issue of Minister Jim Flaherty's "budget day shoes" and "hockey gear tariffs" in March, according to access-to-information documents.

Northern Gateway

Equity offer would give First Nations $70K a year: Report

The equity offer from Northern Gateway to aboriginal groups along the route of a controversial oil pipeline would amount to about $70,000 a year for the bands, which would have to borrow the millions of dollars needed to purchase equity from Calgary-based Enbridge itself, say some aboriginal leaders, who are among the minority who have rejected the offer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Medical treatment

AK-47 creator to be flown to Moscow

Russia has sent a medically equipped aircraft to bring Mikhail Kalashnikov, the 93-year-old creator of the AK-47 assault rifle to Moscow for treatment from his home in Izhevsk. Kalashnikov spent two weeks in an Izhevsk cardiology clinic in May. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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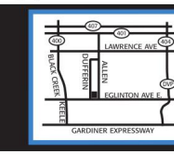

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CSEC. Speech offers rare candid glimpse into eavesdropping agency

One of Communications Security Establishment Canada's senior members opened the blinds a crack in an unpublicized speech a few years ago — providing a rare glimpse of the modern intelligence analyst at the shadowy agency.

The Canadian Press obtained a copy of the candid address under the Access to Information Act.

Though the May 2010 speech by CSEC signals intelligence chief Shelly Bruce was delivered to a quasi-public audience of intelligence officials and educators, the Defence Department, CSEC's parent department, fought to keep portions of it secret. Only a complaint to Canada's information ombudsman dislodged the complete text.

The contemporary SIGINT (signals intelligence-gathering) analyst is neither narrow specialist nor generalist, Bruce told her audience at a downtown Ottawa hotel.

"He or she must be good at everything, a Renaissance man or woman. It's not enough that you know a rare language. You have to be a brilliant speaker, a competent Java coder, a master of social media, a social psychologist, a political scientist, a tactician, a statistician, a geospatial expert, and an expert navigator of the bureaucracy," she said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

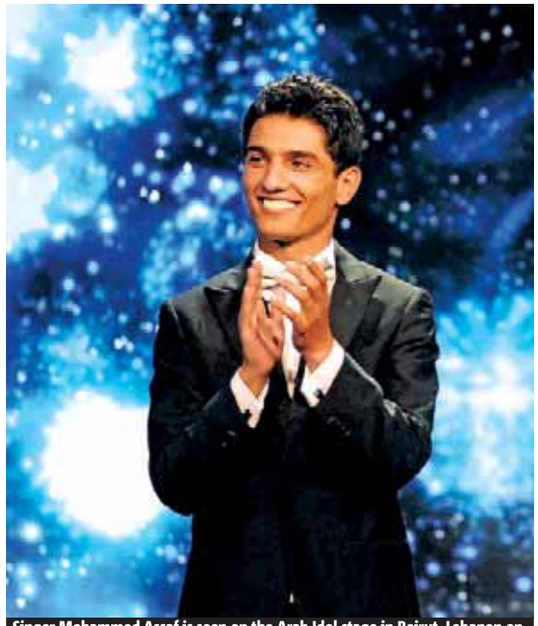
More than $500,000

Groupon settles suit for expired deals

A law firm pursuing a class-action suit against Groupon over expired deal purchases says the online coupon sharing site has agreed to a settlement of more than $500,000.

The Toronto-based law firm Sack Goldblatt Mitchell has posted a notice to the website grouponclassaction.ca. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Singer becomes first Palestinian to win Arab Idol



Singer Mohammed Assaf is seen on the Arab Idol stage in Beirut, Lebanon on Saturday. MBC GROUP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Talent show victory. After snagging Idol title Mohammed Assaf racks up diplomatic honours, including a UN special ambassador gig

The winner of the Arab Idol reality show can't stop adding titles.

After winning the popular contest, singer Mohammed Assaf was named a special ambassador Sunday by the UN's Palestinian refugee agency and the Palestinian president.

On Saturday night, Assaf became the first Palestinian to win the Arab world's version of American Idol, setting off wild celebrations across the Palestinian territories.

After the victory, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas declared the singer an honorary ambassador. "I congratulate the talented singer Mohammed Assaf ... who conveyed the message of the Palestinian people to the Arab nation through his art," Abbas said in a statement distributed by the official Wafa news agency.

He was also named a youth ambassador by the UN's Relief and Works Agency, which serves Palestinian refugees across the Middle East. The agency runs the Khan Younis refugee camp in Gaza, where Assaf has lived since the age of four.

Assaf said he was "truly honoured" by the appointment.

He has emerged as a rare unifying force among Palestinians, who are divided between rival governments in the West Bank, where Abbas rules, and the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"All Palestinians share in his success."

Filippo Grandi, the UN's Relief and Works Agency's commissioner

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U.S. Girl Scouts watch as the cookie crumbles

Opposing camps.
Fiscal trouble, declining membership and grass-roots dismay plague organization

Anna Maria Chavez, CEO of Girl Scouts of the USA, left, supports the world's largest girl-led business during National Girl Scout Cookie Day in New York City.
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Given the friction and financial woes facing the Girl Scouts south of the border these days, perhaps it's time for a giant friendship circle.

Just a year after its centennial celebrations, the Girl Scouts of the USA finds itself with problems including declining membership and revenues, a dearth of volunteers, rifts between leadership and grass-roots members, a pension plan with a $347-million US deficit, and an uproar over efforts by many local councils to sell venerable summer camps.

The tangle of difficulties has prompted one congressman, Rep. Bruce Braley of Iowa, to request an inquiry by the House Ways and Means Committee into the pension liabilities and the sale of camps.

Compounding the problems are tensions at GSUSA headquarters in New York, where several senior executives have quit or been ousted since Anna Maria Chavez took over as CEO in 2011. Last week, some of the roughly 325 employees there were invited to take early retirement, and Chavez said an unspecified number of layoffs are expected in August.

Chavez insists the GSUSA is on the right track, although she acknowledged that sweeping changes in structure and programs over the past 10 years have been difficult for many in the Scouts' extended family.

"Change can be unsettling and it is not surprising that some would prefer for us to remain static," she said. "But doing so would be a disservice to girls who need us now more than ever."

Indeed, there's a common denominator between the GSUSA leaders and their critics — earnest expressions of devotion to the Girl Scouts and fervent hopes that it manages to thrive. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I am worried that America's Girl Scouts are now selling cookies to fund pension plans instead of camping."

Rep. Bruce Braley, D-Iowa, in a letter last month to the chairman of the House Ways and Means committee.

Beyond the Border

Peace Bridge brawl won't derail border pact: Doer

Canada-U.S. border co-operation under the Beyond the Border pact will not be derailed by the brawl between Canadians and Americans on the 10-member board that oversees the Peace Bridge, said Gary Doer, Canada's ambassador to the U.S., on Sunday.

"We didn't do (Beyond the Border) to drive it into the ditch on the Peace Bridge," Doer said in the midst of high-level discussions on the future of the critical southern Ontario border crossing with his American counterpart, David Jacobson, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and John Prato, Canada's consul general. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CAR-FREE KING IS WORTH A SHOT

URBAN COMPASS

Matt Elliott
toronto@metronews.ca

TTC CEO Andy Byford came forward with a big, radical idea last week. And Toronto, I've decided, is a city that needs big, radical ideas.

In this town, we need to at least be open to trying stuff.

Byford's plan — also endorsed by TTC chair Karen Stintz — is to explore improving travel times on the transit agency's busiest surface route by closing downtown King Street to cars in the morning rush hour. The idea, really, is to improve transit by removing traffic.

For some, this seems counterintuitive. It's easy to dismiss the plan as a disaster in the making that will just lead to redirected traffic choking other east-west routes across downtown. But transit proponents can easily counter that by pointing out that King Street sees far more use as a transit corridor than it does as a route for vehicle traffic — those streetcars are carrying way more people than the cars.

Will it work? Who knows. There are more variables at play than just cars. Route management plays a big role in transit reliability, too, and it might be possible to see substantial improvements just by better enforcing parking restrictions.

But the real beauty of the Byford-Stintz idea is that they're not looking at pushing through a major, permanent change to King Street. They're looking only at a pilot project — something that might last for a couple of weeks in the summer during the Pan American Games. After that, the idea can be evaluated based on its real-world merits.

If it works, keep it. If it doesn't, kill it.

Pilot projects such as this are exactly the kind of thing Toronto needs more of. They should be initiated frequently and all over the city. In New York City, transportation commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan has used a variety of pilots over the past few years to expand public spaces, increase transit capacity and create more bike infrastructure.

The New York experience shows that pilot projects can bring about change very quickly — it's way simpler to throw down some temporary barriers than it is to issue an RFP for a big capital-works project. And it also shows that it's a lot easier to get the public on board when a project isn't seen as a permanent change.

One of the bigger perception problems faced by the former municipal administration under Mayor David Miller was that people felt as if they were making permanent changes without consultation. The approach Byford and Stintz are proposing is different. Instead of pushing a permanent change to city streets, they're asking if people want to take part in an experiment that just might make things better.

And that's worth a shot.

Read more of Matt's blog, Ford for Toronto, at metronews.ca

ZOOM

Flying bike idea gets off the ground

ET-like flying bike takes to the skies

It's a bird! It's a plane! No, it's a flying bicycle! British designers Yannick Read and John Foden have revealed their extraterrestrial-looking vehicle, the XploreAir Paravelo, a bike that transforms into an ultralight aircraft requiring no licence to fly and capable of reaching altitudes of up to 1,220 metres. **METRO**

Wheeeeeee!

- **Speed & power.** Travels at 40 kilometres an hour in the air, for up to three hours at a time, powered by a biofuel 249cc motor and parachute.
- **Design.** Foldable, tows a lightweight trailer carrying a powerful fan.
- **Plans.** If it draws enough public support, it will go into full production and later go on sale for less than $23,488.

JONATHAN HORDLE/REX FEATURES

Bikes and the Wrights

"The Wright brothers were former bicycle mechanics, so there's a real connection between cycling and the birth of powered flight that's recaptured in the spirit of the XploreAir X1 flying bike."

John Foden, co-designer at XploreAir

It's economical, too

"Unlike a helicopter, you don't need a large hangar and bank balance to own a flying bicycle — you can store it in your apartment and it costs less than a car."

Yannick Read, co-designer at XploreAir

Read's previous invention was the "B.O.N.D." (Built of Notorious Deterrents) bicycle, a vehicle equipped with a flame thrower, caterpillar tracks and an ejector seat. It was built following a survey asking cyclists about their pet peeves.

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

If you're the type who eschews the summer reading list for a summer mobile-gaming list, the past few weeks have been very good to you. Here are three games to chew up the hours while you're taking a break from the sun:

Badland:
Guide your flying fluffball through a beautifully designed interactive world that also happens to be relentlessly hostile. Scoop up power-ups along the way to survive a challenging mix of platforming and puzzle-solving, similar to Limbo. (iOS and Android: $4.99)

Leviathan Warships:
Manage and upgrade a fleet of ships for turn-based multiplayer naval warfare against your friends. Everything about your fleet is customizable, so it's up to you to weigh the pros and cons of going big guns blazing versus staying swift and nimble. (iOS and Android tablets: $4.99)

Frozen Synapse:
A wildly addictive and challenging tactical strategy game that charges you with commanding a team of soldiers across a minimalist game board, using buildings and obstacles as cover. Find which of your soldiers complement each other best and surprise your multiplayer opponents with clever ambushes. (iPad: $6.99)

Twitter

RE: Floods ravage southern Alberta, published June 21

@WestJet: We've asked WestJetters to match our @redcrosscanada donation and encourage all CDNs to do the same: http://fly.ws/17wjrab

@rsinghphoto: Disgusting to hear some businesses charging $20 for a bag of ice or $45 for a case of water!

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How to get your undead fix

World War Z. Zombies have captured our imagination for years — here are a few suggestions on how to enjoy these infamous brain eaters

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Get your zombie fix by catching up on the latest season of The Walking Dead. HANDOUT

It's rarely a good sign when reports of trouble behind the scenes of your mega-budget film eclipse the movie's marketing, but that's what has been going on with World War Z for the better part of a year now, with everything from script problems to massive rewrites to strife between star Brad Pitt and director Marc Forster nabbing headlines. None of this suggests good news when it comes to the film itself. If you're not feeling too confident about seeing the new zombie flick either, here are some alternatives to get your undead fix.

Go read a book

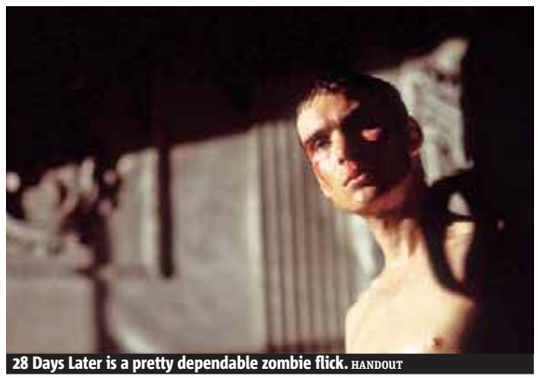
After being worked on by a who's who of Hollywood screenwriters, the film World War Z strays pretty far from the book that inspired it. Why not curl up with Max Brooks' original and envision some worldwide zombie terror with your own imagination?

Go for a classic

There are plenty of sub-par zombie movies out there, so instead of taking the risk of seeing yet another, why not revisit something more dependable? In keeping with the fast-moving brain-munchers of World War Z, we recommend Danny Boyle's chilling 28 Days Later or Will Smith's take on I Am Legend. Of course, there's always Lucio Fulci's unintentionally hilarious Caribbean-set Zombie from 1979, which features a zombie-versus-shark battle that has to be seen to be believed.

Go gaming

The latest season of The Walking Dead might be over, but there's plenty more — and, arguably, better — action to be had in the impressively sprawling, award-winning video game version. But don't expect to walk around as an Andrew Lincoln avatar or anything, as the game is based more on the comic book that inspired the show and uses completely new characters — though you may come across some familiar faces.



28 Days Later is a pretty dependable zombie flick. HANDOUT

Get on Netflix

Maybe you haven't actually caught up on The Walking Dead, in which case good news: The entire series is available for streaming on Netflix. On the film side, you can also stream the zombie thriller Let Me In, which is the American remake of the stellar Swedish flick Let the Right One In.

Go indie

Writer/director/star Jeremy Gardner made the Battery, an impressively original zombie flick, on a budget of $6,000 — but you can hardly tell. Consider it the antithesis to the bloated World War Z. The indie gem has been collecting awards and accolades around the world on the festival circuit and is now available to rent or own online. Find out more at thebatterymovie.com.

Go to the movies

Instead of the zombie apocalypse, how about just the good old-fashioned actual apocalypse? This Is The End is still going strong at the box office and may be the funniest thing in theatres. And Jonah Hill turns into something sort of resembling a zombie at some point. Plus, it's got cannibals, well-endowed demons and Emma Watson with an axe. How is Brad Pitt supposed to compete?

Box office

Monsters beat out zombies

Disney's Monsters University is the weekend box-office winner, according to studio estimates released Sunday. The animated family film, a prequel to Monsters Inc., debuted in first place with $82 million. It beat out Paramount's Brad Pitt zombie romp World War Z, which opened in second place with $66 million.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Can't get no satisfaction? Tune in to CTV

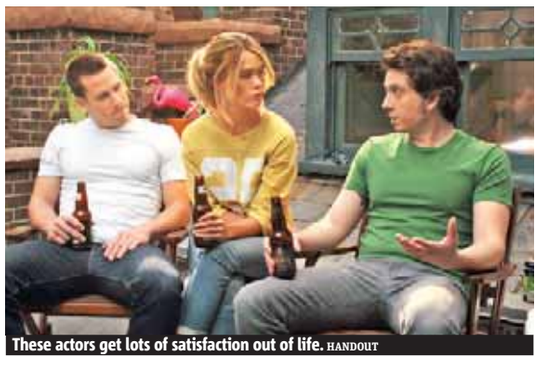
Want Satisfaction? If so, be sure to watch CTV this summer. Satisfaction, a half hour comedy about three roommates navigating the world of romance, friendship and heartache, begins airing Monday at 8 p.m. ET/PT. Metro spoke to the three stars of the show and asked them to reveal what really satisfies them.

Luke Macfarlane
The thing that brings me the most satisfaction in my life is building things. Whether it's building something out of wood in my workshop or collaborating with the many people it takes to build an episode. There is nothing more satisfying than seeing the efforts of your labour.

Leah Renee
Spending time with my dogs, Bogey and Brigitte for one. Dogs really are a girl's best friend, and there's nothing like a good cuddle session with them. Then, cooking while listening to some good music and having a big glass of wine is also pretty perfect. All that being said, I've gotta be honest, waking up every day and going to my dream job is pretty amazing.

Ryan Belleville
Here's what satisfies me. Professionally, it's making people laugh. Nothing distracts us more from the hardest moments of life than a good laugh. It is very satisfying to give the gift of laughter to someone who needs it.

METRO



These actors get lots of satisfaction out of life. HANDOUT

Justin Bieber ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Fast and furious: Bieber's neighbours mad at driving

Justin Bieber's neighbours are so fed up with he and his friends' reckless driving in their gated Calabasas, Calif., community that they've asked the police to intervene, according to E! News. There's also been an emergency Homeowner's Association meeting planned to address the issue. "It has been escalating for the past six months. He has begun to flip over to a really dark side," a neighbour says of Bieber's "aggressive, reckless" behaviour. "They have sent him warnings. He's out of control. Everyone has a Bieber white Ferrari story. God forbid someone gets hurt by that car. He just feels like he is above the law." There are apparently some laws he's not above, though, as Bieber once again found his age to be an obstacle to having a good time. The 19-year-old reportedly requested an invitation to the Miami Heat's victory bash last week at a South Beach nightclub but was turned down by both the club management and the team because he is under 21, sources say.

Naomi Watts

Princess Di film won't feature Will and Harry

While Princess Diana will be getting the Hollywood treatment later this year with Diana starring Naomi Watts, the film won't actually feature much of her sons, Prince William and Prince Harry, according to the Daily Mail. Sources say there is only one "significant scene" featuring the boys that takes place shortly before Diana's death. Director Oliver Hirschbiegel tells the newspaper that additional scenes featuring the boys were cut because "it never felt right to have them in the film."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Forget zombies, it's the attack of the lizard people

STARGAZING
Malene Arpe
scene@metronews.ca

Brad Pitt says World War Z is "the most intense thing you're gonna see all summer." Oh, I don't know about that. Alcide eating someone's arm on last week's True Blood was pretty arghhhh.

Kim and Kanye reportedly name their baby North West. The Northwest Territories, Oliver North, North By Northwest, WestJet, North Korea and the West Nile Virus plan a class action suit. Kris Jenner, meanwhile, refers to the child as Kompass.

Ryan Reynolds drops out of the Highlander remake. That's really too bad. We were all looking forward to Connor MacLeod of the clan MacSmartass.

Jennifer Lopez joins 33, the dramatic movie about the trapped Chilean miners. "Oh," Jennifer said, "My mistake. I thought it was a movie about famous, beautiful people who are 33. Just like I am. Ooops."

Nigella Lawson's husband, who was photographed choking her, says it was "just a playful tiff." That's plausible. And the swift kick that should be aimed at his crotch is what I would describe as "a gentle kerfuffle."

Leslie Gold of the show Hardcore Pawn says he would buy Kim Kardashian's baby's dirty diapers. "That's so disgusting," says Kris Jenner. "What in the world is wrong with you? We wouldn't sell that ... unless you also buy the umbilical cord."

Don Ed Hardy says that Jon Gosselin's endorsement killed the Ed Hardy brand. There were, of course, many other contributing factors, such as severely decreased spending power, a demographic shift and ugly.

A member of Whitby Town Council in England says he's regularly abducted by lizard people and has fathered an alien baby but it's no big deal and he just wants to fix potholes. "Why can't we have that kind of politician?" asks everyone in Montreal and Toronto.

Amanda Bynes

Amanda Bynes 'nose' what the people want

Amanda Bynes finally got her nose job this weekend, revealing on Twitter that she's got a lot more about the operation to share. "I'm going to post a video of some of the procedure on my Twitter," Bynes writes. "I need one more procedure to thin out the bridge of my nose." So we all have that to look forward to.

Madonna

Quicker than a ray of light Madonna's kids are all grown up

Madonna admits being the mother of adolescents is no picnic. "Seeing my daughter at 16, she's still my little girl and also a woman," Madonna says during a visit to Good Morning America. "Ever since my daughter got an iPhone, she stopped talking to me." Things aren't going much more smoothly with her 12-year-old son, Rocco, who is growing rapidly, sporting facial hair and is "looking at girls' butts," Madonna says, shaking her head. "Terrible."

Twitter

@Sethrogen
Just flew from Australia to London, which I think is as far as you can travel on earth before you're heading back to where you started.

@ElizabethHurley
Yes- I am putting off packing and learning lines by tweeting nonsense.

@kevin_nealon
Lost my cell phone in Johannesburg last night. Please address your future tweets to @MullahSowungo the Cab Driver.

Learn to save

Pros and cons of paying allowance

IT'S ALL RELATIVE
Kathy Buckworth, kathybuckworth.com

The paying of an allowance is a personal choice. To help you figure out where you come down in the debate, here's a handy list of pros and cons.

Pros

- Kids learn about the real-world concept of "work for money." The sooner they understand this dynamic, the better.
- Kids have the opportunity to save their own money toward the purchase of things they want but you don't want to buy.
- You can easily bribe them to clean up their rooms, clear the table, do some vacuuming and maybe even fetch a glass of wine every now and again.

Cons

- The concept of contributing labour simply because they are a member of a functioning family is lost.
- Every chore in the house soon has a dollar amount attached to it.
- They might save their money and spend it on items you think are frivolous (at best) or dangerous (at worst).

Where do I land on this? Well, as the boss of my family, I believe in paying allowance. I know this is how the real world works, and I know that kids under the age of 14 can't earn good money working outside the home.* (*Legally. But check around. You never know.)

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Exclusively online

"Elmo's Song" is driving Mommy to drink. Read more (mis)adventures of parenthood with Reasons Mommy Drinks online at metronews.ca/voices

No diaper? No problem, with EC

Toilet training. The new parenting trend is "elimination communication." What is it and how can you implement it at home?

DOROTHY ROBINSON
Metro World News in NYC

It seems impossible: A baby — many times not much older than newly born — goes to the bathroom directly into the toilet and not a diaper. Devotees of "elimination communication" (EC) say that it can happen.

Christine Gross-Loh has been preaching this alternative to toilet training for years; her book, The Diaper Free Baby, has been the instruction manual for EC devotees since it was published in 2007. Here she gives advice on being number one in the "number two" business.

How is EC different from regular toilet training?

The most basic difference is that you start EC earlier, before a child has become so used to eliminating in diapers that potty training is a whole new transition he has to get used to (and may be resistant to).

Babies are born with this awareness of elimination, but as they become used to eliminating in a diaper all the time, they lose that awareness — and have to work on becoming aware again when they reach the age of conventional toilet training. EC-ed children are often out of diapers completely at or before the age when most children are just beginning to embark on potty training.

What advice do you have for working parents who live in cities who may want to try EC?

EC can be done during the evening or on weekends. Even if you are at home with your baby full-time, you may not be doing EC full-time. It's easy to have some diaper-free time during the evening, or sit your baby on the potty before and after his bath. Doing EC does not mean you have to ditch diapers completely.

What are some drawbacks to EC? Benefits?

It's hard to do anything when it's not a cultural norm — you may get less support and less information. Information about EC — about typical stages, about the logistics — is really key. Luckily, the information and support is out there as more and more parents do EC. And there are so many great reasons to give it a try: There are communication benefits (you learn to read your baby just as you learn how to figure out when he is hungry or sleepy), environmental and economic benefits (you go through fewer diapers) and health benefits (less diaper rash).

Finally, you are not relying on diapers so much that your child becomes reluctant to let go of them, a problem that some parents face when doing conventional toilet training.

Why do you think EC has taken off in recent years?

I think it's because there are so many parents out there who know more about the world around us. They know that in cultures around the world, it's not at all the norm for a baby older than one to be in a diaper.

When you know that this isn't a universal thing, it makes you feel more open to understanding why and how this is, and to realizing there are some viable lessons here for us.

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Ontario

This potato salad is the cream of side dishes

BBQ potato salad with crispy red onions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

This rich and creamy potato salad can be served warm or cold. The crispy red onions add a unique touch to this summer staple.

1. Heat oven to 200 C (400 F).

2. Place potatoes horizontally on cutting board and slice vertically into 1-cm (1/2-inch) thick slices. Brush with 15 ml (1 tbsp) of the olive oil; season with salt and pepper.

3. Place in a single layer on a non-stick baking sheet; bake for 20 minutes.

4. Remove sweet potatoes to a plate. Return baking sheet (with remaining potato slices) to oven; continue baking for 5 minutes or until just tender.

5. Heat barbecue to medium-high heat. Brush potatoes with remaining olive oil. Grill on greased grill for 3 to 4 minutes per side or until grill marks appear. Let cool.

6. In a large bowl, whip cream until soft peaks form; stir in mayonnaise. In a small bowl, combine dill, mustard, lemon zest, sugar, parsley, thyme, cayenne and garlic; fold into cream mixture. Stir in potatoes; toss gently to coat. Serve with crispy onions on top.

Crispy onions

Slice onion in half and cut into fine slices. In a bowl, toss onion with flour; shake off excess. In a large skillet, add enough oil to coat entire skillet and heat on medium heat. Add onion and cook in batches until golden, adding more oil if necessary. Remove to paper towels. Divide potato salad among serving plates. Top with crispy onions and green onion. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ CHEF DEVAN RAJKUMAR

Ingredients

- 1 each sweet potato, yellow-fleshed and purple or red potato (each about 250 g/1/2 lb)
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil, divided
- Salt and fresh cracked black pepper, to taste
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) 35 per cent whipping cream
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) mayonnaise
- 22 ml (1 1/2 tbsp) chopped fresh dill
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) whole grain mustard
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) grated lemon zest
- 5 ml (1 tsp) brown sugar
- 5 ml (1 tsp) each chopped fresh parsley and thyme leaves
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) cayenne
- 1 clove garlic, minced

Crispy Red Onions:

- 1 red onion, peeled
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) all-purpose flour
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) vegetable oil (approx)

- 1 green onion, chopped

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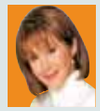

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Dairy Queen is a favourite for cooling off as summer starts to heat up. Just watch what you choose.

Dairy Queen medium chocolate dipped cone (199g)

480 calories/21 g fat/47 g sugar

Equivalent

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Dairy Queen medium chocolate cone (199g)

340 calories/11 g fat/34 g sugar. This delicious chocolate soft serve ice cream saves the extra calories and fat because there's no chocolate coating.

Shake up the summer grill with Shishito peppers

Never had shishito peppers? You need to track them down. Right now.

First, a primer. Shishito peppers are small, thin Japanese peppers. They look a bit like a longer, thinner jalapeno. But the flavour is quite different. While jalapenos have thick flesh and an assertive heat most of us are familiar with, shishitos are thin skinned and generally sweeter than they are hot.

And the prep couldn't be easier. They are cooked whole, usually with a splash of oil and just enough time in the skillet to lightly brown in spots. Seasonings can vary, though coarse salt is a must.

In addition to having a wonderfully addictive flavour — the trinity of oil, salt and a gentle heat helps here — shishito peppers are perfect for summer.

Start to finish: 15 minutes and serves 4.

1. Heat a grill to high. In a large bowl, combine the peppers and 1 tablespoon of the oil. Swirl and toss the peppers until evenly coated with the oil.

2. Using tongs, arrange the peppers on the grill so they lay across the direction of the grates (not with them). The goal is to prevent the peppers from falling through the grates. Cook, turning often, until the peppers begin to brown and blister, about 4 to 6 minutes.

3. Return the peppers to the bowl (no need to wipe it out). Add the remaining oil, the salt and almonds, then toss well. Transfer to a serving bowl and serve immediately.

Nutrition information per serving: 140 calories; 90 calories from fat (64 per cent of total calories); 10 g fat (1 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 0 mg cholesterol; 12 g carbohydrate; 6 g fibre; 5 g sugar; 4 g protein; 1,450 mg sodium. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 pound shishito peppers, left whole
- 2 tablespoons toasted sesame oil, divided
- 1 tablespoon coarse or flake salt, such as Maldon or kosher
- 1/4 cup finely chopped almonds

Shishito peppers. AP PHOTO

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I get by with a little help from my co-workers

The task of the ask. Inquiring with others when you're unsure at the office should never bring you shame

ASHLEY MILNE-TYTE
Metro World News

Most of us don't like asking for help at work, even when we're overwhelmed. We fear it makes us look weak. In fact, it can bring huge benefits.

Last year I was interviewing a successful small business owner when she mentioned one thing that had initially held her back: feeling she had to do everything herself and do it perfectly. But she soon realized her male counterparts were asking other entrepreneurs for help and advice all the time, and that this actually played a significant part in their success.

She let her guard down and began following in their footsteps. She now advises all of the women she mentors to do the same.

I spoke to leadership coach Henna Inam about a few of the reasons why women in particular are so squeamish about asking for help.

Fear of rejection

Why not ask for help?

- **We tend to take "no" very personally.** We need to take a step back and realize it's not always about us. "If we decide not to take it personally, the way we ask becomes different," Inam says.

I hate bothering people

To turn this perception around, think instead about how you'd feel if someone asked you for help or advice. Most of us, Inam points out, would feel flattered in that situation: "The ego feels good. You're able to give someone something they need and want." So don't hold back.

It makes me look like I can't do it myself

There are two sides to this one. First, there's you grappling with your own ego, the stubborn inner child that insists you don't need help to achieve this thing. That's easily dealt with — just tell the child to pipe down.

Less easy, as I put it to Inam, is dealing with the fact that surely some colleagues or managers actually will see you as weak if you ask for help.

She admits that there is no good answer to this question. Yes, maybe they will. But she is against the idea of women living their lives in fear of what someone else may think about them.

"If (never asking for help) becomes an unconscious habit, that's when it becomes dangerous," she says.

In other words, by all means be judicious about who and when you ask — but if you need help, ask.

Feeling overwhelmed at work? Ask for help. ISTOCK

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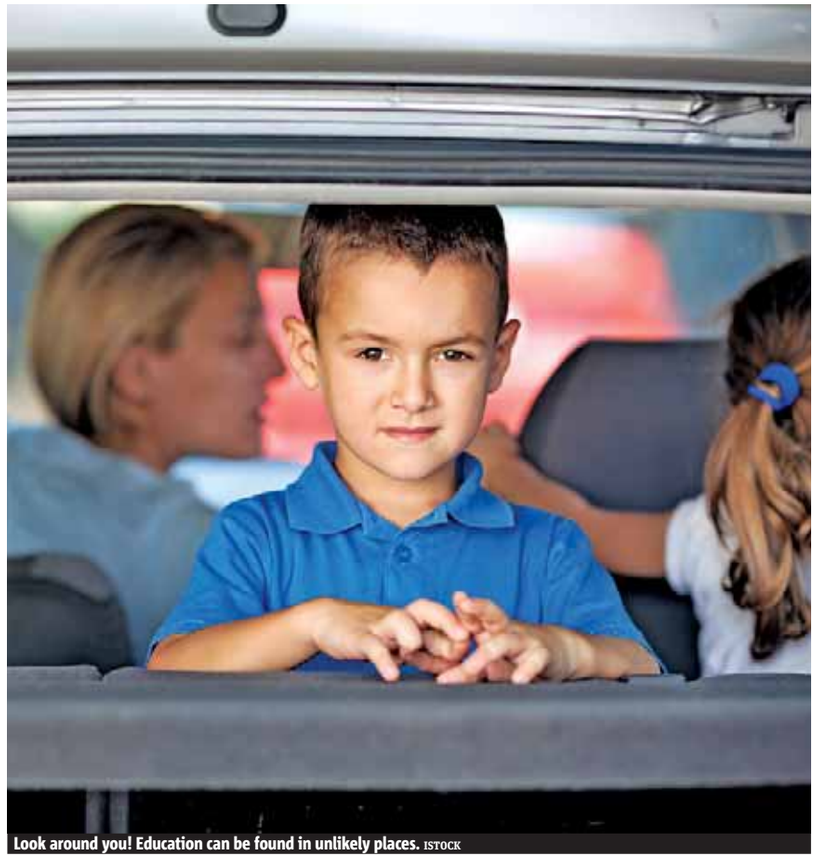
Make summer count by adding fun to math



Look around you! Education can be found in unlikely places. ISTOCK

It's as easy as 1,2,3. Give the brain a little boost between barbecues, bonfires and heading to the beach

ALISON BOWEN
Metro World News

This summer, when your child asks, "Are we there yet?" on that family road trip, you can have a new answer.

Surreptitiously relating everything to math helps children use their noggins in the summertime, suggests Glen Whitney, co-founder and co-executive director at Manhattan's Museum of Mathematics.

"Summer's a great opportunity, if you're out doing things, to make math more connected with the world," he says.

Whitney says summer can be a prime time to sneak math into warm-weather activities, from a routine summer family road trip to a baseball game.

"Kids are naturally curious, and they want to be able to figure out things," he says. "They want to figure out, how long it's going to (take) me to save up for that skateboard."

Whitney gave Metro five ways to sneak math into summer activities:

When your kids ask that quintessential question, "Are we there yet?" make it a math problem

Ask them to calculate how far away you are and how long it will take to reach your destination. This may also be a chance to invoke the "when I was your age" card — "When I was a kid, you had to look at the little numbers on the map and look them up," he recalls. "Now, you don't have to do that any more, thanks to Google Maps." Explain the odometer and how it changes as you move along.

Bring children along while you shop for a camping trip or a summer barbecue

"Anything you can involve your kids in that kind of budgeting, planning or estimating" is great, he says. Explain the budget and, as you approach the checkout, ask them to tabulate a rough estimate of how much everything will cost.

Point out shapes

If you are in the city, for example, ask kids what shapes they see. A building could be a rectangle, and a roof could be a triangle. This introduces kids to, or helps them keep up with, basic geometry.

Sporting success

If your child is a sports fan, get them involved with the numbers in the game

- For example, if they're a fan of a certain baseball star, ask them how many hits he needs to get his batting average up or how many games your local sports team needs to win to increase their ranking.

NHL

Top skaters hobbled ahead of Game 6

Patrice Bergeron may or may not be available for the Boston Bruins in Game 6 of the Stanley Cup final, but Claude Julien is keeping that a secret. Jonathan Toews' status for the Chicago Blackhawks might be a little clearer.

Julien called Bergeron day-to-day with a "body" injury and added that his status was "really good news." Julien was short on details other than that. He said he did not know if Bergeron would skate on Monday.

Chicago coach Joel Quenneville said Toews was feeling much better after leaving Game 5 on Saturday night with an upper-body injury. Quenneville said the team was "optimistic" the 25-year-old captain would be able to play Monday night.

Bergeron left Game 5's 3-1 loss to the Blackhawks after skating just two shifts in the second period.

Toews took a hit to the head from Boston defenceman Johnny Boychuk and did not play in the third period.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tennis

"I know I can play much better and it's just a matter of a day or two from turning around."

Thornhill's Milos Raonic who has lost three straight matches heading into Wimbledon. Raonic looks to get back on track Tuesday when he plays his first match as the No. 17 seed at Wimbledon against No. 72-ranked Carlos Berlocq.

NHL. Leafs look to La-La Land for goaltending help

The Toronto Maple Leafs looked to end their goaltending questions Sunday by trading for goalie Jonathan Bernier.

Bernier was stuck behind Jonathan Quick in Los Angeles. The Leafs were interested in upgrades at any position.

"I think it's incumbent upon every team to look at what's available and if there is an ability to improve you look to do it," GM Dave Nonis said last week in Boston.

Toronto gave up forward Matt Frattin, goalie Ben Scrivens and a second-round draft pick in either the 2014 or 2015.

Bernier, 24, is eligible to become a restricted free agent. He played in 14 games for the Kings in 2013, going 9-3-1 with a 1.88 goals-against average and .922 save percentage.

The Leafs' incumbent starter James Reimer went 19-18-5 this season with a 2.46 goals-against average and .934 save percentage. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Heading east

"He's been a great soldier for us and he's been a very good player for us."

Kings assistant GM Ron Hextall on Jonathan Bernier

The Leafs acquired Jonathan Bernier from the Kings on Sunday GETTY IMAGES

It goes to 11: Dome gets amped as wins pile up

MLB. With blowout win over Orioles, Jays equal franchise record for consecutive wins

Jose Baustista congratulates Edwin Encarnacion on his two-run home run in the second inning of the Jays' 13-5 win over the Orioles on Sunday at Rogers Centre. ABELIMAGES/GETTY IMAGES

The Toronto Blue Jays didn't hang their heads when they struggled at the start of the season.

The mood remained upbeat despite regular losses. The players knew they had the potential to turn things around and fulfil the high expectations.

Toronto took a big step in getting back into contention by completing a three-game sweep of division rival Baltimore with a 13-5 rout on Sunday. The Jays also tied a team high with their 11th straight win.

The streak has reinvigorated the fan base, the players are all smiles and the early-season woes seem like a distant memory.

"It was a battle early on, we all know that," Jays manager John Gibbons said. "We always figured it was just a matter of time before we started playing better. And (the slump) lasted longer than we expected but that's all behind us now."

Edwin Encarnacion and Colby Rasmus homered and Josh Johnson worked into the seventh inning for his first win of the season. Jose Bautista put the game out of reach with a bases-clearing double in the seventh inning to the delight of the sellout crowd on a sunny afternoon at Rogers Centre.

The Jays (38-36) are now just five games behind first-place Boston. Encarnacion drove in four runs and had three hits.

"I've been waiting for this since the season started," he said.

"We'll enjoy it, we'll enjoy the moment. I'm not surprised (by) this. I know this team is good and I know we can do it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
By all means take advice from your friends but don't let anyone dissuade you from following your chosen course of action. If in doubt, listen to your inner voice.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Try not to give in to feelings of self-pity today or it may color your entire week — in shades of dismal gray! You may be under pressure at the moment but you are tough enough to take it.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Someone you think of as a friend is planning to get rich at your expense, so err on the side of caution in all partnership matters. Just because they were honest yesterday does not mean they will be honest today.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
It is too late to change the outcome of a long-running drama. All you can do is let fate take its course and trust that it will all work out fine in the end.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
If you want a peaceful life over the next few days you are advised to keep your opinions to yourself. That applies both to what you think about the state of the world and to other people's private affairs.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will have to make a few sacrifices this week, but it's really no big deal. In fact you will rather enjoy putting yourself out for other people's benefit.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
There are so many changes going on at the moment that it may be a bit bewildering. In time, of course, everything will become clear but for now you are advised not worry about the future.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Are you thinking for yourself or are you following a fad just because everyone else is? It may be the latter and that is something you need to watch. There is no such thing as a "correct" opinion.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may be thinking of giving up on something that is not working out for you. Don't! Everything will change over the next few days and it's quite likely you will begin to make progress.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Other people may be telling you that you need to make changes but your solar chart says they are wrong. You are on the path you are supposed to be on.

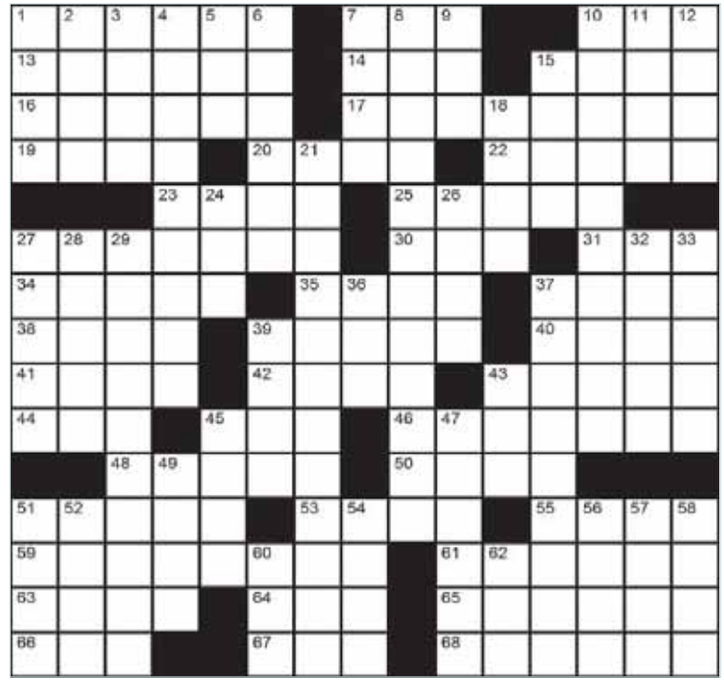
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If your inner voice tells you to be careful you must listen to it. Cosmic activity in some of the more sensitive areas of your chart warns you are up against serious forces.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You are on the right track, of that there is no doubt. So why the persistent feeling that something is about to go wrong? Whatever the reason you've got to get past it. Great things await you. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



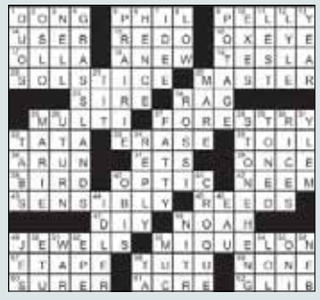
Across

1. The Ikea parking lot monkey
7. Belonging to Vancouver's prov.
10. "Casablanca" (1942) setting [abbr.]
13. Enthusiastic response to "Who wants ice cream?": 4 wds.
14. Baby __ (A.A. Milne character)
15. Largest union in the country [acronym]
16. Formed groups, __ up
17. NWT's __ Gulf (Named after Norwegian explorer Roald)
19. Alice's portrayer on "The Brady Bunch", __ _. Davis
20. Goblet part
22. Skirt style
23. Diet ads word
25. Spherical
27. Select a politician: 2 wds.
30. Greek alphabet letters
31. Car fuel
34. Opinionated newspaper columns
35. "Dirty Jobs" host, Mike __
37. Mr. Walesa (Former leader of Poland)
38. De __, Robert
39. Bobby-__ (1940s teen)
40. Opposing
41. "Rats!" ...less swearing-sounding
42. "___ Little Tenderness" by Otis Redding
43. Computers: _ _-__
44. Actress Ms. Irving
45. Not in, Bob & Doug style
46. Attorneys
48. Mr. Hill of movies
50. Heartburn relief brand
51. ___ rate
53. Industrial region of Germany
55. 'Noon' in Montreal
59. Shawnee chief (b.1768 - d.1813)
61. Detestable
63. Some trees
64. Universal ideal
65. Decayed
66. Married title
67. Ordinal suffix
68. Stunned

Down

1. Ms. Von Teese, Burlesque star
2. Port of Yemen
3. Horse hue
4. England's tennis championships
5. Chemical suffix
6. Says 'hello over there' non-verbally: 2 wds.
7. Highlands hillside
8. Edmonton Eskimos home, __ Stadium
9. Old French coin
10. Disco, for one: 2 wds.
11. Frank
12. Actor Mr. Auberjonois
15. Caesar's 451
18. Catches
21. Reason a CF-18 might be dispatched: 2 wds.
24. Suppositions
26. Repenter
27. Small town in Saskatchewan near Saskatoon
28. Poppy product
29. Winnipeg-born singer of "Seasons in the Sun": 2 wds.
32. Thespian
33. Construction wedges
36. __ Power Degreaser (Palmolive dishwashing liquid)
37. Pamela Anderson's birthplace in British Columbia
39. Ancient colonnade
43. Uniquely-spelled mountain basin
45. Suffix meaning 'word'
47. Town in Ontario's York Region
49. Encumbrance
51. Speck
52. Sad droplet
54. "Here comes trouble!": 2 wds.
56. 9th Greek letter
57. Union payments
58. Not is
60. Toronto thoroughfare, Queen __. _.
62. Arfer!

Friday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

		7				9		
		2	6		4	7		
8				1				4
	9	1	3		6	5	2	
	5	8	4		2	1	7	
2				5				3
		4	9		3	8		
		3				6		

Friday's Sudoku

1	2	8	4	6	3	9	5	7
4	9	3	7	5	8	1	2	6
6	5	7	9	2	1	4	8	3
2	6	9	1	8	5	3	7	4
7	1	5	3	4	9	2	6	8
3	8	4	6	7	2	5	9	1
5	3	6	2	1	7	8	4	9
8	4	1	5	9	6	7	3	2
9	7	2	8	3	4	6	1	5

Today 30°/20° Showers
Tuesday 27°/20° Thundershowers 80%
Your #1 weather forecast now available in HD.
Check your local listings for details.
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Share your Oreo moment and WIN

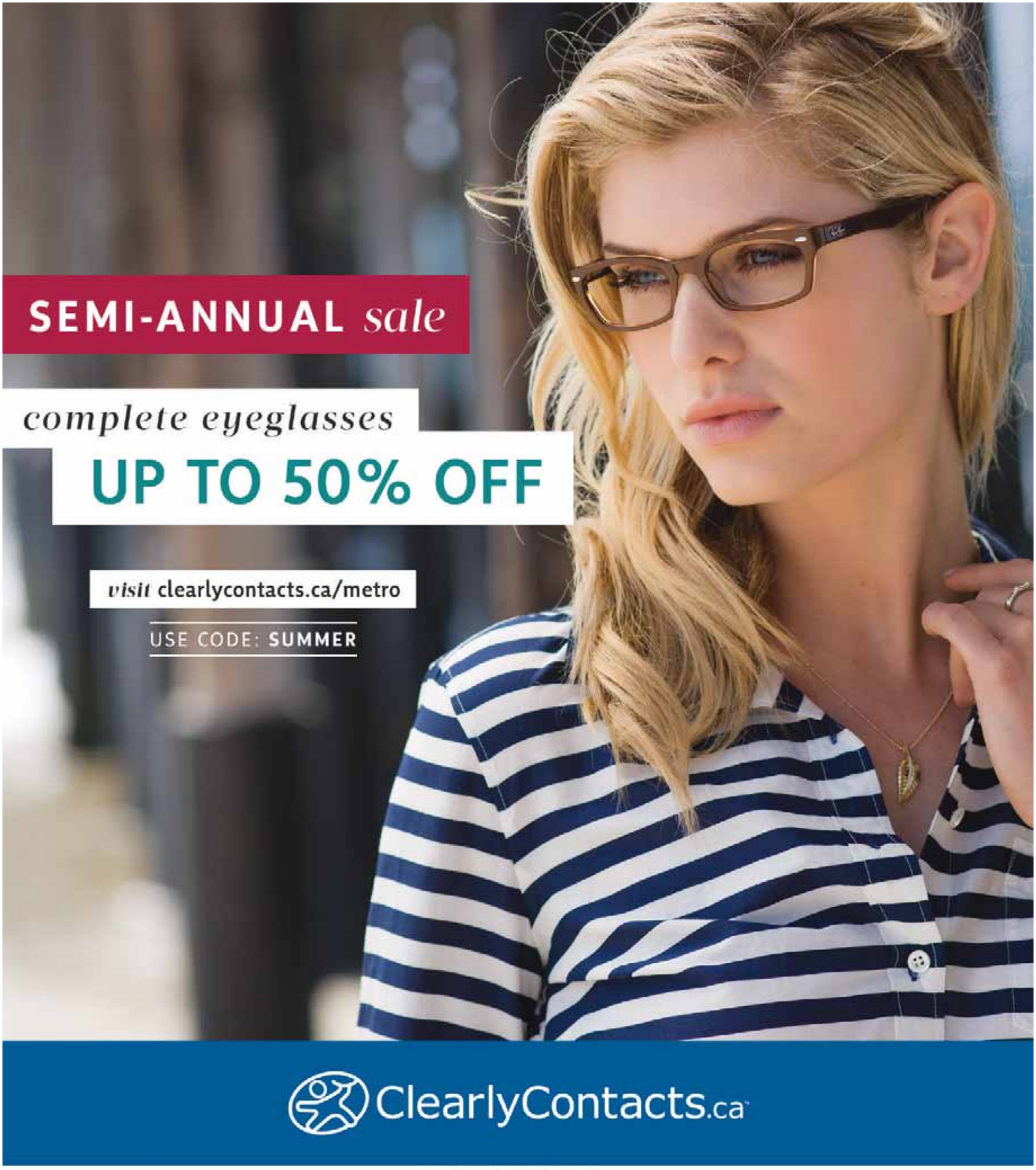
Share your Oreo moment by uploading your photo on clubmetro.com and you could win an ultimate One Direction and Oreo prize pack, including:

- 2 tickets to the sold-out One Direction Toronto show on July 9 or 10
- Six bags of Oreo cookies
- Exclusive Oreo merchandise
- One Direction *Take Me Home* CD, band poster and other fun swag to get you concert ready

For a chance to win, simply show us how you love to eat your Oreo – do you twist, lick or dunk?

ONE DIRECTION
OREO
club metro

No purchase necessary. Contest open to residents of Ontario and British Columbia who have reached the age of majority. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Six (6) prizes will be awarded, three (3) to Ontario residents and three (3) to British Columbia residents, each consisting of two (2) tickets to see One Direction in concert; one (1) bag of limited edition One Direction OREO Cookies autographed by One Direction; six (6) bags of OREO cookies; exclusive OREO merchandise; One Direction's "Take Me Home" CD and a One Direction band poster. Approximate retail value of each prize is $300 CDN. Skill testing question required. Contest opens Monday, June 17th, 2013 at 12:01 AM ET and closes Friday, June 21st, 2013 at 11:59 PM ET. To enter and for complete contest rules visit www.clubmetro.com.



Cannot be combined with other offers.